

10/506481

DT09 Rec'd PCT/PTO 01 SEP 2004

[12928/10018]

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s) : Catherine CALLENS et al.  
Serial No. : To Be Assigned  
Filed : Herewith  
For : METHOD FOR DESIGNING A NUCLEAR FUEL  
ASSEMBLY HAVING A DAMPING GUIDE TUBE, A  
CORRESPONDING SYSTEM, COMPUTER PROGRAM  
AND MEDIUM  
Examiner : To Be Assigned  
Art Unit : To Be Assigned

Mail Stop: PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND  
37 C.F.R. § 1.125 SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION STATEMENT**

S I R:

Kindly amend the above-captioned application before examination, as set forth below.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION AND ABSTRACT:**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(3), a Substitute Specification (including the Abstract, but without claims) accompanies this response. It is respectfully requested that the Substitute Specification (including Abstract) be entered to replace the Specification of record.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

On the first page of the claims, first line, please add:

--WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:--.

Please cancel claims 1 to 13.

Please add the following new claims: